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registering has been no more than three-quarters of capacity—despite a waiting list that could be drawn up if vacancies were known in time. (Additionally, it means that the cost of the teach-in is spread over a smaller number, with less benefit to the membership as a whole).

The Society plans to build on this interest with additional teach-ins in the future, but members are invited to note these points, out of courtesy to the organisers and consideration for Society members, so that maximum interest may be satisfied at future events.

The London "Tomlinson review" process

The arguments about rationalising health care in London continue. Professor Jarman has published a detailed analysis of the problems in the *BMJ* (1993;306:979-82). He concludes that there is little evidence that London is over-provided for beds, given the social context and primary health care provision. The process of reorganisation in London is undoubtedly going to be painful.

As far as the Specialist Service Reviews are concerned, the British Cardiac Society convened a working group of cardiologists and cardiac surgeons for outside London under the chairmanship of Professor Richard Alderslade, Director of Public Health for the Trent Region, to facilitate discussion of the issues among provider clinicians in the Thames regions. This group, together with the Officers and Council, drew up a document on the princi-

ples of the organisation of, and the need for, services, submitted it to the Review, and gave oral evidence. The service review report should be available in June or July.

News from Europe

Philip Poole-Wilson writes: "Most readers will be aware that the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) took the decision some years ago to establish a European Heart House. There were two reasons for this initiative. The first was that the current offices in Nyon, Switzerland, were becoming too small, difficult to staff, and expensive. The second was that the European Society of Cardiology needed a centre for meetings, conferences, symposia, satellite transmissions, and gatherings of experts. The idea was that the European Heart House would be not just a building of office. Rather, it would be a centre to foster the development of cardiology, to further scientific exchange, and to encourage personal contacts among people working in cardiovascular medicine. The Heart House will also be a centre for the formulation of professional opinion in Europe on all matters relating to cardiovascular medicine.

Land was purchased in 1991 in Sofia Antipolis which is approximately 14 km from Nice Airport. There is a motorway connecting the two and visitors do not have to become involved in the city traffic. Architects were consulted and building began in the spring of 1993. Progress has been extremely rapid and the building should be complete before the end of the year. ECCO will be moving its offices to

Nice in the summer of this year. The new organisation will have the rather apt acronym of ECOR, the correct interpretation of this being the European Congress Organisation. The ESC hopes that many members of the British Cardiac Society will visit the new European Heart House within the next few years.

French Society of Cardiology

The next Journées Européennes of the French Society of Cardiology will be held in Paris 13-15 January 1994. The closing date for abstracts is 15 July 1993.

News of colleagues

Stuart Pringle has been appointed senior lecturer in medicine and cardiology at the University of Dundee and Ninewells Hospital.

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NOTICE

The 1994 Annual Meeting of the **British Cardiac Society** will take place at the Riviera Centre, Torquay from 17-20 May.